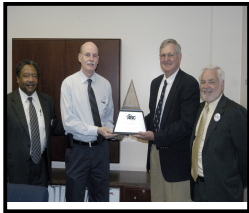




## **DGS and Coakley & Williams Construction Receives National Award**



On Wednesday, June 15, 2011, Coakley & Williams Construction presented a replica of the 2010 National Excellence in Construction Pyramid Award to the Department of General Services (DGS). Coakley & Williams Construction received the award from the Associated Builders and Contractors, Incorporated (ABC) in recognition of their outstanding work on the renovation of the Maryland State House. This privately owned firm was established as a general contractor in 1967 and is located in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

The State House is recognized as one of the most visited tourist attractions in the State of Maryland, in addition to being a National Historic Landmark. It is currently the oldest State Capitol in continuous legislative use.

The entire process of the renovation occurred over an eight month period. Contractors removed and replaced the heating and cooling interior piping system throughout the Capitol building. In some areas throughout the system, pipes were 40 years old and were in significant danger of bursting and possibly creating more damage than the Department anticipated.

Throughout the entire process, DGS worked hand in hand with Maryland State Archives in protecting the artwork and furniture in the State House. Prior to the start of construction, Maryland Archives put in place an artifact protection plan to ensure that valuables were either covered and/or moved to a temporary protective storage.

Taking pride in the quality of their work, no matter how large or small the project is clearly the reason that DGS Secretary Alvin C. Collins was very pleased with the overall completed work from Coakley & Williams Construction. "Knowing they were working in Maryland's most historic building, the laborers on this project worked long hours to help DGS complete a task that many did not think could be accomplished in the time allotted," said Collins. Whatever the challenges, Coakley & Williams Construction was able to achieve this tremendous task. The State House is a historic landmark, and thanks to Coakley & Williams Construction it is now preserved for the enjoyment of future generations.

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